



Department of Homeland Security Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report for 5 September 2007

Current Nationwide
Threat Level is



[For info click here](http://www.dhs.gov/)
<http://www.dhs.gov/>

- According to Bloomberg, the price of crude oil changed by a slim margin in New York as a hurricane in the Caribbean missed platforms and pipelines in the Gulf of Mexico. (See item [1](#))
- The Financial Times reports that American officials suspect the Chinese military hacked into a Pentagon computer network in June in the most successful cyber attack ever on the US Defense Department. (See item [38](#))

DHS Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report *Fast Jump*

Production Industries: [Energy](#); [Chemical](#); [Nuclear Reactors](#); [Materials and Waste](#); [Defense Industrial Base](#); [Dams](#)

Service Industries: [Banking and Finance](#); [Transportation and Border Security](#); [Postal and Shipping](#); [Information Technology](#); [Communications](#); [Commercial Facilities](#)

Sustenance and Health: [Agriculture and Food](#); [Water](#); [Public Health and Healthcare](#)

Federal and State: [Government Facilities](#); [Emergency Services](#); [National Monuments and Icons](#)

Energy Sector

Current Electricity Sector Threat Alert Levels: **Physical:** **ELEVATED**,
Cyber: **ELEVATED**

Scale: LOW, GUARDED, ELEVATED, HIGH, SEVERE [Source: ISAC for the Electricity Sector (ES-ISAC) – <http://www.esisac.com>]

1. *September 4, Bloomberg* – **Oil is steady as hurricane misses Gulf of Mexico oil fields.** The price of crude oil changed by a slim margin in New York as a hurricane in the Caribbean missed platforms and pipelines in the Gulf of Mexico. Felix slammed into Nicaragua today at Category 5, the strongest-rated of storms, after taking a southerly track that will miss Mexican oil fields, according to the U.S. National Hurricane Center. Crude oil for October delivery fell 2 cents to \$73.99 a barrel at 9:27 a.m. on the New York Mercantile Exchange. Prices are up 7 percent from a year ago.
Source:
http://www.bloomberg.com/apps/news?pid=20601072&sid=ap5ge0EZAq_g&refer=energy#
2. *September 3, FresnoBee.com* – **Firm hopes to get more ethanol from corn.** A company that

has been making ethanol from corn for more than 20 years says its ethanol research should allow it to squeeze 27 percent more fuel from each acre of the crop. A privately owned ethanol producer in Sioux Falls plans to expand its dry-mill ethanol plant in Emmetsburg, Iowa, to produce alternative fuel not only from corn kernels, but also the cobs and stalks normally left behind in the fields. So-called cellulosic ethanol is basically fuel made from plants or plant waste - something other than a corn kernel. Making fuel from this biomass costs about twice as much as cooking up corn-based fuel, government researchers say. The U.S. Department of Energy earlier this year awarded \$385 million to six companies hoping to build the nation's first big biomass-to-fuel plants.

Source: <http://dwb.fresnobee.com/24hour/business/story/3691366p-13098922c.html>

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Chemical Industry

3. *September 4, Montgomery Adviser* – **Local homeowners rally against planned chemical plant.** Homeowners in a rural community have protested plans for an aluminum sulfate plant expected to be built by a Georgia firm in their neighborhood. Aluminum sulfate is a compound used in industrial wastewater treatment, the pulp and paper industry, in fabric dyeing, as a soil amendment, as an ingredient in deodorants and sometimes as a pesticide for slugs. Chemical directories list the compound as a hazardous material that is harmful if swallowed or inhaled. It can irritate skin and eyes and corrode metals.

Source:

<http://www.montgomeryadvertiser.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20070904/NEWS02/709040334>

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Nuclear Reactors, Materials, and Waste

4. *September 4, Tennessean* – **Diminishing pool of potential employees for nuclear plants.** A new Department of Labor report has found that more than a third of workers in the nuclear power industry are baby boomers who will be eligible to retire in the next five years. To replace them and to build and operate new power plants that are on the drawing board will require thousands of new electricians, pipefitters, and engineers. No new nuclear plant has been ordered in the United States since the 1979 accident at Three Mile Island. But utilities in the South are preparing plans to build as many as 27 new reactors, according to the Nuclear Energy Institute.

Source:

<http://www.tennessean.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20070904/NEWS01/709040340>

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Defense Industrial Base Sector

5. *September 4, AP* – **Budget Cut Will Delay Anti-Missile Laser.** A Boeing Co. executive on Tuesday warned that proposed budget cuts by U.S. lawmakers could delay the completion of an anti-missile aircraft by two years. The airborne laser program, which is being installed on a

modified Boeing 747 aircraft, is designed to detect, track and engage a ballistic missile from a rogue state in the sky. The Missile Defense Agency said the Boeing-led team sailed through initial testing of the anti-missile aircraft on Aug. 23 at Edwards Air Force Base in California. The aircraft completed 48 flight test missions and fired its laser more than 200 times, according to the agency.

Source: http://biz.yahoo.com/ap/070904/boeing_aircraft_missile.html?.v=2

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Banking and Finance Sector

6. *September 4, Bloomberg* – **Delphi investors win \$342 million fraud settlement.** Delphi Corp. and former company executives along with Merrill Lynch & Co. and other underwriters will pay \$295.1 million to investors in shares and bonds and \$47 million to current and former Delphi employees, according to a settlement filed today in federal court in Detroit. Investors filed a class-action in 2005 against Delphi officials and underwriters, including New York-based Merrill for “engaging in a wide-ranging fraudulent scheme” to deceive investors. According to the settlement, investors will receive \$204 million worth of stock in the newly reorganized Delphi and \$90 million in cash from other defendants and insurance carriers. Delphi, the largest U.S. auto parts maker, filed for bankruptcy in October 2005, following a failed attempt to receive funds from its former parent, General Motors Corp., and wage concessions from unions. After the bankruptcy filing, Delphi investors discovered that Delphi had artificially inflated share prices by “issuing misleading earnings statements in the years before the bankruptcy.”

Source:

<http://www.bloomberg.com/apps/news?pid=20601087&sid=ajZD9tnWSaGE&refer=home>

7. *September 4, Costumer Affairs* – **Latest spam scam targets Bank of America Customers.** A new phishing scheme resurfaced last week targeting Bank of America customers. Fraudsters sent a message bearing the heading ‘Security Update Alert,’ which alluded to a tighter account security. The email, which contained the bank’s logo, asked the bank’s customers to follow a link where they were required to put their account user name and password. Those who entered their information had their bank accounts emptied almost immediately. Bank of America released a statement saying they never ask customers to handle sensitive information via email.

Source: http://www.consumeraffairs.com/news04/2007/09/bofa_scam.html

8. *September 4, WWT-NBC* – **Military E-Mail Scam.** A new email scam resembling the Nigerian letter scenario is now circulating among military personnel. The email, titled “Need Your Urgent Help” mentions an Air Force Sgt. Paul Wheeler, who “is serving in Iraq and needs help transferring the money to his lone surviving daughter.” Though Sgt. Wheeler is a real, highly decorated officer in the Air Force, he did not send email. Fraudsters are becoming “more and more sophisticated and more and more difficult to detect,” according to the Better Business Bureau (BBB). A study conducted by BBB revealed that Americans lost close to a billion dollars to various scams resembling the Nigerian letter scam.

Source: <http://www.wowt.com/news/headlines/9551982.html>

9. *September 4, SmartPros* – **Senators Investigate Identity Theft, Tax Fraud.** Senate Finance Committee Chairman Max Baucus (D-Mont.) and Ranking Republican Member Chuck Grassley (R-Iowa) sent a letter to the Government Accountability Office inquiring about “procedures the Internal Revenue Service currently follows to curb identity theft and subsequent tax fraud, and how these measures can be improved.” The Senators are concerned about the tax gap created by tax and identity fraud. In many cases identity theft victims are deprived of or received delayed tax refunds, while the criminals cash in their victims’ tax returns.
Source: <http://accounting.smartpros.com/x58977.xml>
10. *September 4, DallasNews* – **New law allows Texans to freeze credit reports.** According to a new law, which took effect Saturday, Texas residents are allowed to freeze their credit reports when they wish to do so. Previously, customers were entitled to freeze their credit report only after they became victims of identity theft and filed a police report. There are 34 other states, which permit costumers to freeze their reports prior to becoming victims of identity theft. The credit freeze remains in place until the owner releases an authorization for it to be lifted. The first step in freezing a credit report is to send a notice by certified mail to each of the three national credit bureaus – Experian, Equifax and TransUnion- along with proof of identity, and depending on the credit bureaus, up to \$10 dollars. (Identity theft victims are exempt from this fee). The bureaus then “have five business days to freeze your credit report and 10 business days to send you a confirmation letter, which will include a personal identification number and toll-free telephone number to call to lift the freeze.” Customers also have the option to ask the credit bureau to lift the freeze temporarily or to allow only certain creditors to view the credit report. Officials warn that not all customers will benefit from freezing their credit report. People who use instant credit or build up credit cards will be affected by the freeze because it takes the bureaus 3 days to defreeze the report. The recently enforced law is designed to increase protection against identity theft.
Source: http://www.dallasnews.com/sharedcontent/dws/bus/columnists/pyip/stories/DN-moneytalk_03bus.ART.State.Edition1.35aa55a.html#
11. *September 4, MSNBC* – **FBI looks overseas in ongoing bomb scam.** Recent leads into the bomb scare to 24 stores, banks and discount stores in 15 states, led the F.B.I. to broaden their investigations overseas. In all cases phone calls were placed to ask employees to wire money to an account abroad. Because the callers threatened to set off a bomb if their requests were not met, workers from 5 stores sent thousands of dollars to the account number given to them. In one case, terrified workers wired the money to an account in Paraguay instead of Portugal, as the caller requested. Currently, the F.B.I. is conducting investigations into the accounts where the money was sent and is collaborating with European authorities to locate possible suspects. Criminal intelligence analysts are trying to determine if all the threats came from the same group. F.B.I. officials did not offer advice on whether individuals should comply with the criminals’ request to wire money, but they “hope they’ll be real careful before they hit the send key,” said F.B.I. spokesman.
Source: <http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/20532032/>
12. *September 3, Chicago Tribune* – **Start-up wires money using wireless phone.** AKos Technology announced a new system used to send money via cell phones. This the high fee

involved for people who do not have bank accounts, but want to send money abroad. AKos founder, Daniel Csoka, stated that according to the new system, “a user could pay his money to the same store where he buys his prepaid phone minutes. Instead of paying \$20 for prepaid minutes, he could pay \$220, with the extra \$200 going to his mother.” When the money is deposited, the phone user gets a transaction number and password that he can give to his mother when he calls her. The mother then gives the number and password along with her ID to a convenience store, which gives her the cash.” The phone is marketed mainly to Mexican immigrants, who transferred last year \$24 billion to Mexico, but is planned to expand later to China and India, as well as other Latin American countries. The company will use Clear Talk Wireless as its first carrier, but hopes to sign contracts with five others before it starts operations next year. Clear Talk’s market covers mainly customers in California and Arizona. Source: http://www.chicagotribune.com/business/chimon_notebook_0903sep03,0,1679972.story

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Transportation and Border Security Sector

13. *September 4, USA Today* – **States act swiftly on bridge repairs.** After the Minneapolis bridge collapse last month, state transportation authorities and legislators from across the country have begun to prioritize transportation funding for bridge and road repairs. For example, Missouri just approved a plan to repair 802 bridges in only five years, and Minnesota is currently working on a plan to raise \$25 million over 3 years by increasing the fuel tax by 5 cents. All these efforts comply with the latest figures from the American Society of Civil Engineers that say “it would take \$1.6 trillion over five years to upgrade the nation's infrastructure, including its 599,893 bridges.” Minnesota and Missouri are not the only states working on improving infrastructure. New Jersey Gov. John Corzine has ordered a review of his state's 6,436 bridges, which Transportation Commissioner Kris Kolluri says will cost billions of dollars to repair. Tennessee’s transportation department announced a change in legislation requiring an inspection of all bridges every year instead of every two years. In Wisconsin, transportation authorities will install sensors to measure stress on 14 bridges older than 50 years. Oklahoma doubled its infrastructure funds and is conducting in-depth inspections of 64 bridges. Louisville, Kentucky mayor Jerry Abramson is planning on building two bridges across the Ohio River while Carthage, Missouri’s mayor was reportedly shocked by the results of his city’s last bridge inspection which found rusted reinforcement bars, disconnected railing supports, and deteriorating beams. Source: http://www.usatoday.com/news/nation/2007-09-03-bridges_N.htm
14. *September 4, Commercial Appeal* – **Sharing cost of new river span.** Tennessee legislators are exploring the most effective way to raise the estimated \$500 million needed for the construction of a new Memphis-area bridge across the Mississippi River. Some have argued that charging a toll is the most desirable way to increase funds, while others doubt the necessity of a new bridge when there are already two toll-free bridges in the area. The debate was sparked by a study for the Tennessee Department of Transportation, which concluded that “a new bridge would, over a 20-year period, allow the region to create an estimated \$2.2 billion in additional goods and services, and increase personal incomes by \$1.5 billion.” Source: <http://www.commercialappeal.com/news/2007/sep/04/x04jwttolls/>

15. *September 3, The Arizona Republic* – **Teamsters continue to battle Mexican trucks.** The dispute between the Teamsters union and the Bush administration over Mexican truck access to U.S. roads continues. Teamsters' Union president, Jim Hoffa, has sued the government for issuing permits to Mexican freight haulers. Government representatives have dismissed Teamsters' arguments concerning the safety of Mexican trucks, stating that breaking the deal could fuel a rift with Mexico, a key trading partner. Meanwhile, the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration has announced that 16 of 188 Mexican firms have failed safety inspections. Presently, there are 31 Mexican and 14 U.S. firms waiting for permits. The program is on hold until the Department of Transportation extends its official blessing (which could happen as early as Thursday) and the Mexican government issues permits to U.S. trucking companies. The borders were supposed to have been opened 7 years ago under the North American Free Trade Agreement of 1994, which allows "certified Mexican trucks can carry loads anywhere in the United States and can pick up loads Mexico-bound loads. The converse applies to U.S. trucks."
- Source: <http://www.azcentral.com/arizonarepublic/news/articles/0903mextrucks0903inside.html>
16. *September 3, Canadian Press* – **Stepped-up checks mean longer lines at U.S. borders with Canada, Mexico.** More thorough border inspections and ID checks have led to increased waiting periods throughout Canadian and Mexican borders. The leaders of the Border Trade Alliance, a U.S. association of border businesses, chambers of commerce, academic institutions and others, have alleged that Customs and Border Protection has adopted a policy at Homeland Security Secretary, Michael Chertoff's direction to "check and enter" at least 60 per cent of U.S. citizens' driver's licenses. Customs and Border Protection spokeswoman Maggie Myers denied Chertoff had ordered the stepped-up checks. Nevertheless, the U.S. does plan to require all citizens to show a passport or other photo ID deemed acceptable by the Homeland Security Department when crossing the Canadian border beginning January 30, 2008. Many are afraid that commerce will suffer if the situation does not improve. Indeed, a recent report found that Canadians who usually travel to Buffalo to shop are now more reluctant to do so due to the delays.
- Source: http://canadianpress.google.com/article/ALeqM5jpEraTT8kG5XwhBf9ckN-861_Zfg
17. *September 3, Examiner.com* – **PA. wants new toll for an old interstate.** The Pennsylvania Turnpike Commission is asking the U.S. Department of Transportation for permission to add a toll to Interstate 80, which is currently a free interstate highway. Cars using I-80 through Pennsylvania would pay \$25, while trucks would face a rather stiff \$150 fee for a one-way trip. There is no precedent for a free interstate highway being turned into a toll road. As such, this situation will be watched closely by other states nationwide that are desperate for added transportation revenue. Two state legislators voiced their opposition by adding language into the massive transportation funding bill that would specifically ban tolling on I-80.
- Source: http://www.examiner.com/a-913740~Pa_wants_new_toll_for_an_old_interstate.html

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Postal and Shipping Sector

Nothing to Report

Agriculture and Food Sector

18. *September 4, USAGNet* – **Kroger's salad may be tainted with E. coli.** After tests revealed the possible E. coli O157:H7 contamination of a sample Kroger potato salad, the Ohio Department of Agriculture on August 31 issued an advisory asking consumers not to consume Kroger brand Mustard or southern-style potato salad with a "best IF Used By" date of Sept. 5, 2007. To date, there have been no reports of illnesses associated with the affected salad, and additional samples analyzed by a third party laboratory contracted by Kroger have tested negative for E. coli O157:H7.
Source: <http://www.usagnet.com/story-national.php?Id=2077&yr=2007>
19. *September 4, Indiana Prairie Farmer* – **All Four Major U.S. Crops Could Need More Acres in '08.** According to the Indiana Prairie Farmer, all four major U.S. crops, corn, soybeans, wheat, and cotton will need more acreage in 2008. This is due to increased demand for corn, lack of soybean supply, and strong price strength for cotton and wheat.
Source: <http://indianaprairiefarmer.com/index.aspx?ascxId=fpStory&fpsid=29789&fpstid=2>
20. *September 3, Michigan Farmer* – **USDA projects a new export record.** According to a press statement issued by USDA, U.S. agriculture exports look poised to reach another record, topping \$79 billion with projections for FY2008 of over \$83.5 billion. The sales record is being set across all major agricultural product groups. Exports totaled \$68.5 billion last year. The Secretary of Agriculture notes that these export numbers show high demand for U.S. products worldwide. "They also reflect tight world markets for grains and oilseeds." USDA is projecting corn exports to top \$600 million in the next fiscal year thanks to a record crop, strong foreign demand and reduced competition. China's demand for soybeans and cotton remains strong, while developments in the biodiesel market will raise Europe's demand for soybeans as well. Meanwhile, horticulture exports will rise by \$800 million, supported by strong demand and a competitive dollar. Beef exports are expected to increase \$400 million.
Source: <http://michiganfarmer.com/index.aspx?ascxId=fpStory&fpsid=29766&fpstid=1>
21. *September 2, International Herald Tribune* – **Quality controls imposed on Chinese food exports as minister assures consumers.** Chinese officials have launched a new program requiring all packaged food for export to have a quality guarantee label. China will clamp down on food tainted with illegal or excessive chemicals, Agriculture Minister Sun Zhengcai was quoted as saying in Monday's People's Daily newspaper. The move follows domestic and foreign concerns about recent reports of toxins in meat, seafood and vegetables. From now on food packaged for export will not be allowed to leave the country if the product does not have an inspection and quarantine symbol, said the General Administration of Quality Supervision, Inspection, and Quarantine in a separate announcement. The new measure, which began Sept. 1 as part of a broader plan to improve quality standards, covers seafood, eggs, rice, vegetable, oil, wine and biscuits.
Source: <http://www.iht.com/articles/ap/2007/09/03/asia/AS-GEN-China-Tainted-Products.php>
22. *August 31, Associated Press* – **Calif. Water Limits Imposed to Save Fish.** On Friday, a

Federal U.S. District Court Judge imposed limits on water flows caused by huge pumps sending water from the San Joaquin-Sacramento River delta to users around California, saying the pumps were drawing in and destroying delta smelt, a threatened fish. Under the ruling, limits would be put in place from the end of December, when the fish are about to spawn, until June, when young fish can move into areas with better habitat and more food. The water serves more than 25 million Californians and thousands of acres of crops. In a year with an average amount of precipitation, about 6 million acre feet of water is pumped from the delta, and up to one-third of that could be lost under the judges' order, said the deputy director of California's Department of Water Resources. An acre foot is enough to put one acre under one foot of water.

Source: <http://ap.google.com/article/ALeqM5hLlScP37mxSIS3tnC3TcHQSgTQ0g>

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Water Sector

23. *September 4, St. Cloud Times* – **Cities get wastewater loan.** The cities of Annandale and Maple Lake, Minnesota, have received a \$16 million low-interest loan from the state to complete their joint wastewater treatment facility. Construction, which is expected to be complete in 18 months, is already under way. The plant will serve about 3,000 Annandale residents and 1,800 Maple Lake residents.

Source:

<http://www.sctimes.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20070904/NEWS01/109040026/1009>

24. *September 4, Nevada Appeal* – **More wells found to be contaminated: Investigation continues into drinking water in Tahoe Meadows subdivision.** A total of five wells in the Tahoe Meadows of South Lake Tahoe have been found to contain tetrachloroethylene (PCE) on Monday. Five parts per billion is the drinking water standard for PCE, a chemical component found in dry-cleaning products and a potential health hazard. One of the three wells contained 8.6 parts per billion PCE. Another two wells contained "very low levels" of chloroform. These results are from approximately 12 private wells tested on Saturday. The lab results from another 25 wells tested on Sunday and Monday are expected back on Wednesday. Drinking water provided through South Tahoe Public Utility District remains unaffected by the contamination in Tahoe Meadows.

Source: <http://www.nevadaappeal.com/article/TD/20070904/NEWS/109040043/-1/REGION>

25. *September 1, AP* – **Water recycling in Cheyenne saves 1 million gallons a day.** Officials with the City of Cheyenne, Wyoming say a new water-recycling system is saving 1 million gallons a day. The Cheyenne Board of Public Utilities last year broke ground on a system to use treated water from the city's waste water treatment plant to irrigate city parks, cemeteries and athletic fields. According to Clint Bassett, a water conservation specialist with the board of public utilities, using treated waste water for the irrigation needs provides a drought-resistant water source that preserves reservoir water for drinking. The federal Environmental Protection Agency recently presented Cheyenne with an award honoring the system.

Source: <http://www.localnews8.com/Global/story.asp?S=7015628>

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Public Health and Healthcare Sector

26. *September 4, Reuters* – **Russia confirms H5N1 bird flu strain at poultry farm.** Russia on Tuesday reported its third outbreak this year of the H5N1 strain of bird flu after 410 birds died on a poultry farm in the country's south. Another 414 birds were culled and strict quarantine measures were put in place at the farm in Krasnodar region, according to a statement from Russia's animal and plant health watchdog, Rosselkhoz nadzor. "It's serious enough to bring in strict measures, including quarantine, to make sure it doesn't spread," a Rosselkhoz nadzor spokesman said. Tests carried out in regional laboratories confirmed that the H5N1 strain was responsible for the deaths of birds at the Lebyazhye-Chepiginskoye farm, in the same region where the virus was detected in dead domestic birds in January. Russia's second outbreak of 2007 occurred in February, when several cases in towns around Moscow were traced to the capital's best-known pet market. No human cases have ever been reported in Russia. Source: http://thestar.com.my/news/story.asp?file=/2007/9/4/worldupdates/2007-09-04T144420Z_01_NOOTR_RTRMDNC_0_-293208-2&sec=Worldupdates
27. *September 3, American Medical News* – **West Nile virus infects humans across the country.** So far this year, most states west of the Mississippi are reporting higher numbers of West Nile virus cases than those in the East. Thus far, 31% of the total 444 cases of West Nile infection were of the most serious neuroinvasive encephalitis or meningitis type. Last year, the figure was 34% of the 4,269 total cases occurring between Jan. 1, 2006, and Dec. 31, 2006. This year, instances of this type of infection have occurred most often in California (32 cases), South Dakota (19), Colorado (10) and Arizona (10). Less severe, non-neuroinvasive forms of the illness have appeared most prevalently in California (51), Colorado (62), South Dakota (43) and North Dakota (44). More details and updates are available online (www.cdc.gov/ncidod/dvbid/westnile). Source: <http://www.ama-assn.org/amednews/2007/09/10/hlca0910.htm>
28. *September 3, AP* – **West Nile virus cases continue to climb in Wyoming.** The number of cases of people infected with West Nile virus in Wyoming continues to increase. The Wyoming Department of Health says that as of last Friday, 119 human cases had been reported. There have been cases reported in 11 of the state's 23 counties. Fremont County has reported 85 cases. The state epidemiologist with the health department says many cases aren't diagnosed because ill people don't seek medical care and because some medical professionals don't pursue testing. Source: <http://www.localnews8.com/Global/story.asp?S=7020428>

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Government Facilities Sector

29. *September 4, Des Moines Register* – **State considers e-mail access for inmates.** Prison may be one of the last places without easy access to e-mail, but Iowa inmates could be checking their messages in the future. The Iowa Department of Corrections is studying a plan to install sophisticated software to provide a tightly restricted version of e-mail for the 8,900 convicts in the state's prison system. Inmates could swap e-mail messages with a limited list of relatives and friends, and the software would screen the communications for any sign of

trouble according to a prison spokesman. Inmates would use surplus government computers in designated prison areas where e-mail use would be supervised. All e-mail would be electronically archived and could be reviewed by prison officials. Iowa's prisons now prohibit inmates from having access to e-mail, the Internet or mobile phones because of security concerns aimed at preventing inmates from plotting escapes, ordering killings or drug deals, and causing other trouble, state officials said.

Source:

<http://desmoinesregister.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20070904/NEWS10/709040390/1001/NEWS08>

30. *September 2, Peninsula Daily News* – **Homeland Security seeks to expand office space in California.** The federal government is seeking space for an expanded local Customs and Border Protection office that will grow from five employees to a possible 50. The Department of Homeland Security is seeking a five-year lease for up to 12,000 square feet of existing office space or up to eight acres of undeveloped property, with 50 on-site parking spots, in the Port Angeles or Sequim areas, according to a classified ad in Friday's issue of the Peninsula Daily News. Local officials have discussed potential locations with federal officials.

Source:

<http://www.peninsuladailynews.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20070902/NEWS/709020306>

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Emergency Services Sector

31. *September 4, PhillyBurbs.com* – **Need for law enforcement officers growing.** The country will need more law enforcement and protective services workers in the coming years to fill new homeland security jobs, handle a new breed of tech-savvy criminals and replace retiring employees. A recent government analysis of various industries projected that, by 2014, the number of people needed in most law enforcement professions would increase by more than 10 percent from 2004 levels. The U.S. Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics, which published the employment analysis, reported that the increases would be in government jobs — such as patrol officers and police detectives — and non-government positions, including security guards and private investigators.

Source: <http://www.phillyburbs.com/pb-dyn/news/157-09042007-1401957.html>

32. *September 4, Star-Telegram* – **New radio system aids in emergencies.** First responders in a Texas county got a boost from the federal government. Johnson County recently received a Homeland Security Department grant for almost \$400,000 that covers the cost of a new radio system that carries signals for longer distances. All of Johnson County's fire departments will use the radios except Burleson, which has its own system. The new equipment should be installed in a month.

Source: http://www.star-telegram.com/state_news/story/222958.html

33. *September 3, msnbc.com* – **Serial crank caller ties up 911 lines.** A serial crank caller using a donated cell phone has plagued 911 with nearly 2,000 fake emergency calls over the past six months, tying up dispatchers and sending police and firefighters on invalid emergency calls authorities said. Officials said they didn't know why nearly all the false emergencies calls

purportedly take place in Vallejo, a city north of San Francisco Bay. Investigators analyzed the cell phone signal to track the caller to an area in San Francisco but have not been able to obtain a more precise location. The phone has no service carrier, which has prevented investigators from discovering any further personal information about the caller. The man has been able to continue making the calls because 911 calls are free even from cell phones without paid accounts, authorities said.

Source: <http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/20577304/>

34. *September 3, AP* – **NewsEdge Corporation – Feds to restrict volunteers at disasters.** In the immediate aftermath of the World Trade Center attacks on September 11, 2001, everyday citizens responded to Ground Zero to assist in the recovery. Citizens were able to get past security checkpoints without proper identification. It might not be so easy the next time disaster strikes. In an effort to provide better control and coordination, the federal government is launching an ambitious identification program for rescue workers to keep everyday people from swarming to a disaster scene. Proponents say the system will get professionals on scene quicker and keep untrained volunteers from making tough work more difficult. But they also know it is a touchy subject, particularly for those devoted to helping in moments of crisis. The Federal Emergency Management Agency came up with the idea after the World Trade Center attack and Hurricane Katrina in 2005, when countless Americans rushed to help - unasked, undirected, and sometimes unwanted. Many of those volunteers angrily dispute the notion they were a burden. They insist that in many instances they were able to deliver respirators, hard hats, and protective boots to workers when no one else seemed able.

Source: <http://www.emsresponder.com/article/article.jsp?siteSection=1&id=6095>

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Information Technology

35. *September 4, InformationWeek* – **After short break, storm worm fires back up with new tricks.** After taking a 13-hour break late last week, the virulent Storm worm is back to its old tricks, trying out new tactics, and taking advantage of the Labor Day holiday. The malware, which has relentlessly hammered the Internet for the past three months, is being spread this week in mass mailing that portends to be a Labor Day-themed electronic greeting card, according to a researcher from McAfee AVERT Labs researcher. Clicking on the greeting card link leads to a malicious IP address, in this case a Happy Labor Day page where an “exploit cocktail is downloaded onto the victim’s computer. “In addition to the usual Microsoft exploits, QuickTime and WinZip buffer overflow exploits are also attempted on a user's machine,” wrote the researcher. The storm authors have also been sending out waves of fraudulent e-mail that claims to link users to music videos of pop stars. Users who click on the link are taken to a Web page containing a malicious script and a Trojan horse designed to make the victimized machine part of a major botnet used to spam out more malware and junk e-mail, or even launch denial-of-service attacks. In a written statement, a consultant for Sophos touched upon the evolving shape of the Storm worm, saying “what is clear is that they will keep on adopting new disguises to try and infect the Windows computers of innocent Internet surfers.”

Source:

<http://www.informationweek.com/software/showArticle.jhtml;jsessionid=STBGII4LZW0MS>

- QSNDSL0SKH0CJUNN2JVN?articleID=201803920&articleID=201803920
- September 4, CNET – China hosts nearly half of all malware sites.** According to a report released Monday by antivirus company Sophos, China – including Hong Kong – hosted 44.8 percent of the world's malware infected Web sites in August. The U.S. ranked a distant second, hosting 20.8 percent of sites that contain malicious code. The number of infected Web pages has also grown. Sophos said it detected an average of 5,000 new infected pages each day in the month of August. The company warned that simply staying clear of sites hosted in the top three countries of China, the U.S. and Russia is not an effective method of avoiding malware. “Hackers are hijacking Web sites around the world to make them point to malware on sites based in China, the U.S. and Russia,” said a Sophos security consultant. The company also warned about a sharp rise in spam pointing people to these infected sites. Malicious senders, in an attempt to bypass attachment virus scanners, are using messages that direct people to Web sites with malicious code. Computers get infected when people click on the links in the e-mail message.
- Source: http://news.com.com/China+hosts+nearly+half+of+all+malware+sites/2100-7349_3-6205896.html
- September 4, ComputerWorld – Custom-built botnet steals eBay accounts.** Researchers from Aladdin Knowledge Systems Ltd. said that the online auction site eBay has been targeted by identity thieves who are wielding a botnet that uses brute force to uncover valid account log-in information, attacks that may have started in early August. According to the company, the attacks are launched by a large botnet that the identity thieves have built using a sophisticated, multistage campaign that begins with compromised legitimate Web sites in several languages. The company identified some of the estimated 300 compromised sites, including two in Israel and scores of real estate Web sites in Florida and Massachusetts. The sophisticated botnet attack allows hackers to uncover a limited number of real credentials of eBay users, while potentially remaining distributed enough to stay below the security radar of eBay. It is unknown what the identity thieves have done with stolen eBay log-ons, but at least one eBay user reported having his eBay and PayPal accounts compromised.
- Source: http://www.computerworld.com/action/article.do?command=viewArticleBasic&articleId=9034138&intsrc=hm_list
- September 03, The Financial Times – Chinese military suspected in hacking of Pentagon.** The Financial Times reported today that American officials suspect the Chinese military hacked into a Pentagon computer network in June in the most successful cyber attack ever on the US defense department. The Pentagon acknowledged shutting down part of a computer system serving the office of Robert Gates, defense secretary, but declined to say who it believed was behind the attack. Current and former officials told the Financial Times that an internal investigation has revealed that the incursion came from the People's Liberation Army. The defense ministry in Beijing declined to comment on Monday, but Chinese officials denied the allegations Tuesday. US officials said the penetration in June raised concerns to a new level because of fears that China had shown it could disrupt systems at critical times. Additionally, the National Security Council said the White House had created a team of experts to consider whether the administration needed to restrict the use of BlackBerries

because of concerns about cyber espionage.

Source: <http://www.ft.com/cms/s/0/9dba9ba2-5a3b-11dc-9bcd-0000779fd2ac.html>

Internet Alert Dashboard

To report cyber infrastructure incidents or to request information, please contact US-CERT at soc@us-cert.gov or visit their Website: www.us-cert.gov.

Information on IT information sharing and analysis can be found at the IT ISAC (Information Sharing and Analysis Center) Website: <https://www.it-isac.org/>.

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Communications Sector

39. *September 4, Thomas Net* – **Unified Communications Service integrates VoIP capabilities.**

Available for customers of Hosted IP Centrex, Integrated Communications Package provides hub where employees can access voice mail, control incoming and outgoing calls, manage their online presence, send text messages, and synchronize contacts and calendars. It also includes end-user and administrator-level graphical user interfaces. Service can be used on Web-based interface or run in conjunction with standalone desktop client and Microsoft Outlook plug-in.

Source: <http://news.thomasnet.com/fullstory/804485/rss/>

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Commercial Facilities Sector

Nothing to report

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National Monuments & Icons Sector

Nothing to report

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Dams Sector

40. *September 3, Desert News* – **Bridge atop dam is opened to motorists.** After two years of construction, the bridge over the face of the dam at Deer Creek Reservoir, Utah is open to motorists. Geoff Dupaix, spokesman for the Utah Department of Transportation, said the new bridge was constructed to reduce the sharp turns at each end of the dam. The bridge is 500 feet long and stands nearly 100 feet in the air. Initially, only two lanes across the bridge will be open to motorists with the remaining sections opening later this fall.

Source: <http://deseretnews.com/article/1,5143,695206772,00.html>

41. *September 02, New Scientist* – **Air-dropped dams could fix levee breaches.** Dams formed of metal tripods and self-filling water bladders could be air-dropped to rapidly repair levees

breached by storm damage, say US government researchers. When Hurricane Katrina struck New Orleans in August 2005, the levees created to protect the city from flooding were breached and the resulting deluge left 80% of the city underwater. Should a similar disaster strike the US again, the researchers hope that make-shift dams, dropped from the air, could stem prevent the resulting flood. Solid structures, resembling tripods, would be dropped into the gap left by a levee breach. After the legs are secured to the riverbed, empty water bladders would be dropped in the river just in front of the structure, slightly upstream. These tube-shaped bags would then fill themselves with water using internal pumps and fit into the gaps in the structure. Mary Ellen Hynes, director of research for critical infrastructure at the US Department of Homeland Security, who is leading the project, says levee repair strategies are a priority because there are about 100,000 miles of levees across the U.S., and the density of the U.S. coastal population is also predicted to increase by 11% between 2003 and 2015. The self-filling bladders could also be used to protect cities from storm surges.

Source: http://environment.newscientist.com/article.ns?id=dn12577&feedId=earth_rss20

42. *September 1, San Diego Union Tribune* – **Report looks at the effects of higher San Vicente Dam.** The San Diego County Water Authority has released a draft report on the environmental effects of its proposal to raise San Vicente Dam dozens of feet higher than previously planned. The authority was already scheduled to boost the height of the 220-foot dam by 54 feet. Now officials say an additional 63 feet would allow them to store millions more gallons of water to aid the region during dry spells. If approved, the work would be done together and cost a total of \$552 million. Construction is scheduled to start in 2009. The report can be read online at www.sdcwa.org

Source: <http://www.signonsandiego.com/news/metro/20070901-9999-2m1svraise.html>

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To report cyber infrastructure incidents or to request information, please contact US–CERT at soc@us-cert.gov or visit their Web page at www.us-cert.gov.

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